

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body; and  
a thumb receiving pocket at a second end of said C-shaped body.
2. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body is made of a material having low thermal conductivity.
3. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 2, wherein said material possesses an inherent anti-slip characteristic.
4. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body is heat resistant.
5. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 4, wherein said C-shaped body is formed from silicone.
6. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 4, wherein said C-shaped body comprises at least one of elastomeric material and rubber.
7. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body is flexible about a hinge region between said first and second ends.
8. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein said hinge region is shaped to substantially conform to a user's palm.
9. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein said hinge region has a substantially convex outer surface shape.
10. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 9, further comprises ribs at an interior region, wherein said ribs define said convex outer surface shape of said hinge region.
11. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein said hinge region has a substantially flat outer surface shape.
12. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein said C-shaped body is symmetrical about said hinge region.

13. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein a length of said C-shaped body from said hinge region to said first end is sized to generally conform to a length of a user's hand from a palm region to finger tips.

14. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein a length of said C-shaped body from said hinge region to said second end is sized to generally conform to a length of a user's hand from a palm region to a tip of said user's thumb.

15. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein a length of said finger receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said first end is substantially similar to a length of said thumb receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said second end.

16. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 7, wherein a length of said finger receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said first end is not similar to a length of said thumb receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said second end.

17. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said finger receiving pocket and said thumb receiving pocket includes holes to permit air flow and drainage.

18. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said each pocket includes a flap.

19. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 18, wherein said flap is integrally formed with said C-shaped body.

20. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body further comprises an interior region having ribs that run along a first wall and a second wall extending from a hinge region.

21. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 20, wherein said ribs are of different lengths.

22. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body further comprises an interior region having ribs that run along a first wall and a second wall extending from a hinge region, wherein a surface of said first and second wall comprises a plurality of bumps and ridges.

23. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 22, wherein said surface of said first and second wall further comprises a plurality of discrete protuberances.

24. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said thumb receiving pocket further comprises a thumb receiving stall.

25. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body further comprises a strap mechanism wherein at least one said pocket is defined by a strap.

26. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body further comprises finger guards attached to said first and second ends of said C-shaped body.

27. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said finger receiving pocket and said thumb receiving pockets are substantially similar in shape.

28. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said finger receiving pocket and said thumb receiving pockets are not similar in shape.

29. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said first and second ends have a substantially flat tip shape.

30. (Original) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 29, wherein the substantially flat tip shape of said first and second ends enable said hand protector and grip enhancer to free stand in an upright position.

31. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body; and  
a thumb receiving pocket at a second end of said C-shaped body, said thumb receiving pocket further comprising a thumb receiving stall integrally formed to an inside wall of said C-shaped body.

32. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body; and  
a thumb receiving stall integrally formed to an inside wall of said C-shaped body.

33. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a first strap mechanism at a first end of said C-shaped body for receiving a user's fingers; and  
a second strap mechanism at a second end of said C-shaped body for receiving said user's thumb.

34. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body;  
a thumb receiving pocket at a second end of said C-shaped body; and  
a hinge region towards the center of said C-shaped body, wherein a length of said finger receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said first end is not substantially similar to a length of said thumb receiving pocket extending from said hinge region to said second end.

35. (Original) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body;  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body;  
a thumb receiving pocket at a second end of said C-shaped body; and  
wherein said first and second ends have a substantially flat tip shape which enables said hand protector and grip enhancer to free stand in an upright position.

36. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 1, wherein said C-shaped body further comprises an interior region having ridges that extend at least partially along a first interior wall and a second interior wall from a hinge region.

37. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 36, wherein said ridges are of different lengths.

38. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 37, wherein a surface of said first and second interior wall comprises a plurality of bumps.

39. (New) A hand protector and grip enhancer, comprising:  
a generally C-shaped body; and  
wherein said C-shaped body comprises an interior region having ridges that extend at least partially along a first interior wall and a second interior wall from a hinge region.

40. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 39, wherein said ridges are of different lengths.

41. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 40, wherein a surface of said first and second interior wall comprises a plurality of bumps.

42. (New) The hand protector and grip enhancer of claim 39, further comprising:  
a finger receiving pocket at a first end of said C-shaped body; and  
a thumb receiving pocket at a second end of said C-shaped body.